What is claimed is:

1. A method for operating an internal combustion engine (10) in overrun condition, using the steps:
release of monitoring of a control signal for a power actuator (18; 28; 30) of the internal combustion engine (10) when predetermined release conditions have been satisfied, which include the exceeding of a release rotary speed of the internal combustion engine (10),
after the release, comparing a control signal for the power actuator (18; 28; 30) of the internal combustion engine (10) to a threshold value, and
triggering an error response if the control signal exceeds the threshold value,
wherein the release speed is varied as a function of the intervention of an idling speed control (50) in a formation of the control signal.

2. The method as recited in Claim 1,
wherein the release speed is selected from at least two values.

3. The method as recited in Claim 2,
wherein the highest of the at least two possible values is independent of the intervention of the idling speed control (50).

4. The method as recited in one of Claims 1 through 3,
wherein no release is permitted below the lowest of the at least two possible values.

5. The method as recited in Claims 3 and 4,
wherein exactly two values for the release speed are possible, the lower of the two values being selected if the intervention of idling speed control (50) does not exceed a predetermined threshold value.

6. The method as recited in Claims 3 and 4,
wherein at least three values are possible for the release speed, one of the at least two lower values being selected if the intervention of the idling speed control (50) undershoots a threshold value which is individually assigned respectively to one of the lower values.

7. The method as recited in Claim 1 or 2,
wherein the release speed is selected by access to a characteristics curve which is addressed using the intervention of the idling speed control.

8. The method as recited in one of the preceding claims,
wherein the intervention of the idling speed control (50) in the control loop of the idling speed control (50) is recorded before or after the formation of an actuating variable.

9. A control unit (20) for operating an internal combustion engine (10) in overrun condition, the control unit (20) releasing a monitoring of a control signal for a power actuator (18; 28; 30) of the internal combustion engine (10) when predetermined release conditions have been satisfied, which include the exceeding of a release rotary speed of the internal combustion engine, and after the release, compares a control signal for the power actuator (18; 28; 30) of the internal combustion engine (10) to a threshold value, and triggers an error response if the control signal exceeds the threshold value,
wherein the control unit varies the release speed as a function of the intervention of an idling speed control (50) in a formation of the control signal.

10. The control unit (20) as recited in Claim 9,
wherein it controls at least one of the methods according to Claims 2 through 8.

11. The use of a control unit (20) according to Claim 9 or 10 for controlling the overrun condition of an internal combustion engine (10),
wherein the control signal is an injection pulse width for a fuel injection valve (18) or a command signal for an actuator (28; 30) that meters in air.